IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

March 22, 2002

Commissioner For Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Av 1638 Baum

Re:

U.S. Non-Provisional Utility Application No. 10/024,632

Filed: December 19, 2001

Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules Associated With Plant Cell

Proliferation And Growth And Uses Thereof

Inventors: HE, Steve S. et al. Atty. Docket: 38-21(51837)B

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

- 1. Information Disclosure Statement;
- 2. PTO-1449 Form (2 pages) with 15 accompanying documents;
- 3. (2) return postcards.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcards be stamped with the filing date of these documents and returned as soon as possible.

As the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the first action on the merits, Applicants do not believe that any fees are due in conjunction with this filing. If any fees are due in conjunction with this filing the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fees to our Deposit Account 13-4125, referencing matter number 38-21(51837)B.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence M. Lavin(Reg. No. 30,768

In re application of:

Steve S. He et al.

Art Unit:

To be Assigned

Appln. No.: To Be Assigned

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Filed:

Atty. Docket: 38-21(51837)B

For:

Nucleic Acid Molecules Associated With Plant Cell Proliferation And Growth And

Uses Thereof

I hereby verify this Information Disclosure Statement is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 Express Mail Label No. EK018914953US on the date indicated and is addressed to: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Arlington, VA 22202

awrence M. Lavin

Registration No. 30, 768

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The attention of the Examiner is invited to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached.

It is respectfully requested that the information above be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Docket No. 38-21(51837)B Inventor: Steve S. He *et al*. Page 2

CERTIFICATION AND/OR FEE

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to issuance of the first action on the merits of the above-captioned application, no certification or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence M. Lavin, Jr. (Reg. No. 30/168)

Date:

Patent Department, E2NA Monsanto Company

800 N. Lindbergh Boulevard

St. Louis, MO 63167 Tel: (314) 694-3602 Fax: (314) 694-1671

Page 1 of 1

Nucleic acid morecules associated th plant cell proliferation and growth and uses thereof APPLICATION NO. ??? ATTY. DOCKET NO. 51837 FARM 110-1449 APPLICANT Steve He and Stanton Dotson INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FILING DATE ???? GROUP To be assigned U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS DOCUMENT SUB-**EXAMINER** INITIAL NUMBER DATE NAME CLASS CLASS FILING DATE US6,329,5657 12-11-2001 Methods for improving seeds 2-19-1998 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS **EXAMINER** DOCUMENT SUB-INITIAL NUMBER CLASS DATE COUNTRY **CLASS** TRANSLATION WO0129240 4-26-2001 PCT A2 Yes AΒ No WO0136595 5-25-2001 PCT A2 Yes AC No OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) Wilson, et al., DNA binding properties of the Arabidopsis floral development protein AINTEGUMENTA, AD Nucleic Acids Research 28:4076-4082, 2000 Krizek, Ectopic expression of AINTEGUMENTA in Arabidopsis plants results in increased growth of floral ΑE organs, Developmental Genetics 25:224-236, 1999 Mizukami, et al., Plant organ size control: AINTEGUMENTA regulates growth and cell numbers during AF organogenesis, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA 97:942-947, 2000 Okamura, et al., The AP2 domain of APETALA2 defines a large new family of DNA binding proteins in ø AG Arabidopsis, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA 94:7076-7081, 1997 Mian, et al., RFLP tagging of QTLs conditioning specific leaf weight and leaf size in soybean, Theor Appl Genet AH 96: 354-360, 1998 Klucher, et al, The AINTEGUMENTA gene of Arabidopsis required for ovule and female gametophyte ΑI development is realted to the floral homeotic gene APETALA2, The Plant Cell 8:137-153, 1996 Gu, et al., The FRUITFULL MADS-box gene mediates cell differentiation during Arabidopsis development, ÁJ Development 125:1509-1517, 1998 Liu, et al., Transcription factors and their genes in higher plants, European Journal of Biochemistry 262:247-257, ٠ AK Long, et al., The development of apical embryonic pattern in Arabidopsis, Development 125:3027-3035, 1998 AL Schneitz, et al., Pattern formation and growth during floral organogenesis: HUELLENLOS and AM AINTEGUMENTA are required for the formation of the proximal region of the ovule primordium in Arabidopsis thalania, Development 125:2555-2563 Elliot, et al., AINTEGUMENTA, an APETALA2-like gene of arabidopsis with pleiotropic roles in ovule AN development and floral organ growth, The Plant Cell 8:155-168, 1996 Long, et al., Initiation of Axillary and Floral meristems in Arabidopsis, Developmental Biology 218:341-353, AO

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

In re applications of:

Steve S. He et al.

Appln. No.: 10/024,632

Filed:

December 19, 2001

For: Nucleic Acid Molecules Associated With Plant Cell Proliferation And Growth and Uses Thereof

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Art Unit:

To be assigned

Examiner:

To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 38-21(51837)B

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement of a Nonprovisional Application, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 Label No. EK018914953US on the date indicated and is addressed to:

> **Box Missing Parts** Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

March 22, 2002 LAWRENCE M LAUN JR

(Printed name of person signing this certificate)